RICHMOND LAD

Clever Letter From the Heart of the Kaffir Land.

NATIONAL SPIRIT IN PLENTY

When Americans Get Together Their Patriotic Celebration is Lively.

(Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch.)
Johannesburg, South Africa,
April 1st, 1905.

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Dear Bink:
When I left Richmond for the Dark
Continent you told me to write to you if I
could find time. Well, I've found it—
plenty of it—its here in big wads. Eyerybody is just full of it. I'll promise
you before the Get-Away that I shall
not attempt any scenic description or
word painting. I couldn't paint a word
if somebody would put the bush in ny
hand. In writing Biff Waters not long
ago, I got careless and ried to describe.
Nature's wonderful work in South Africa,
I said, "Would that you could see the
lofty mountain peak who to the stars
uncrowns his majesty, making the
Heaven of heavens his dwelling place."
And Biff wrote back, "Cut out the lofty
mountain peak and his celestial bunk,
and tell us something about the Karfirs." There's no poetry in that man's
soul, I can see that, but I think he's
right, anyway. Nearly all travellers in
foreign lands write long weinerwurst letters home about snow-capped peaks and
winding streams, and never think of telling us that by our shoes chiefly do foreigners tell our nationality, and that
some hotel doors have the door knobs in
the middle; that in England every second
word to and from a servant is "please,"
and that when an Englishman says "thank
you," the word "thank" is uttered in
middle C, and the "you" away up in high
C, or high X. Catch? If not, this will
have to keep till I get home and we'll
go out in the backyard some day and
work it. But honestly now, isn't it the
little commonplace—the ordinary everyday things of a foreign country—that we
want to hear about? So I'm just going
to toss over to you, in Chop Suey style,
a few things about South Africa that
have struck me as peculiar,
The most peculiar thing about this
country is that it is not so peculiar after
all. In many respects it is neck-andneck with us in civilization's race, and
I have felt quite at home ever since I
dropped anchor—except every now and
then when I receive a letter from the
U. S., thirty or thirty-five days after it
is posted.

How They Travel.

divorced two or three times before she could get your tardy will-You-Be-Mine. How They Travel.

Another, thing that, seperated me tomporarily from that "at home" feeling in South Africa was my first ride in a Ricksha—a two-wheeled, rubber-tired conveyance (borrowed from the Japs) drawn by a big stout Zulu with formidable-looking horns skilfully tied on his head, rings in his ears, and feathers and skins and trinkets and stuff all overhis body. This is the chief mode of conveyance in Durban and some few other African cities, and when anything like the governor's reception or other high-classed spectacular attraction is being served, you can see hundreds of these husky Zulus between the shafts running in every direction. It looks funny to see a Gazabe in frock coat and silk hat chasing to a pink tea in a Ricksha. That would be had form in Richmoni. But these men down here don't care how they go, or how they look. Most of them wear droopling fedoras with dress suits, and one night at a high-class vaude-ville theatre I saw a fellow in dress clothes in a private box smoking a Feath and taking to a lady, I called a friend's attention to it, and after he had looked, he turned around and said. "Pshaw, that's nothing. I thought you said sho was smoking a pipe—that's why I turned to see."

Speaking again about Rickshas and "Ricksha Boys," as the pullers are called, you soon get used to them and their formidable make-up doesn't frighten you as little bit. All Kaffirs are just Jackson Ward niggers in the rough anyway, I am strong for the Ricksha. You can sleep off a night's accumulation of Od Scotch more comfortably in a Ricksha on the way home than in any deep seagoing cab that ever hung around at one dollar per, waitings for you to take your last drink. These Ricksha boys always trot—never walk—and they can trot all day long and feel as lively next morning as any Seventeenth-Street nigger ever did on a Saturday night. Their long, graceful strides give to the Ricksha rook in the bushes at the edge of town, Ricksha boys do

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Most Wonderful June Price Reductions

Summer fashions in Women's Suits and Waists have never been so fully set forth as at present. One hesitates in pleased perplexity over what to choose—choice is so wide. Is the Suit for the graduation exercise, the vacation trotterie, or summer trip away? We can supply your every need-We can save you a substantial sum.

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Newest Expressions of Approved Models at Remarkbly Low Prices.

High-class Dresses and Tailor-made Suits, newest expressions of approved models at remarkably low prices.

White Persian Lawn, Dotted Swiss and French Organdy Dresses, daintily trimmed with Val. and Mechlin laces, becoming models, so underpriced that you cannot resist adding one to your summer wardrobe, \$8.98, \$4.98, \$6.48, \$7.48 and

Tailor-made Linen Suits, white and light blue, choice styles in the Eton frocks and frills, fitted or semi-fitted coats, the severely plain tailored or embellished with embroidery, \$15.00

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Very fine assortment of Seersucker Petticoats, in many pretty stripes and dainty patterns. A regular \$1.00 grade; special Monday, 75c Everything new and pretty will be shown in our Silk Petticoat sec-

Satteen Petticoats, in all the summer weights and styles; most complete stock to be found anywhere; prices range from 48c to....82.98

An assortment of Mohair Petticoats, in black, deep, full flounce, handsomely trimmed with three rows of silk ruffles to match; a practical, dressy underskirt; special, black, regularly \$10.00, now. .\$6.48

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Dainty Wash Fabrics 12¹c

You'd have an ideal summer wardrobe by fashioning all your warm weather frocks out of the six fashionable fabrics included Monday at the very low price of 12 1-2c. They're worth up to 25c a yard.

Timely in the Silk Section

WHITE SILKS—For graduation dresses, bridesmaids' gowns, dainty undergarments, cool waists—for every purpose demanding a white silk that will launder perfectly and give excellent service.

interest the woman who is interested in a dress taffeta of unques-tioned merit. Prices under regular:

Women's Vests, Combination Suits and Corset Covers

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Women's Swiss Vests.

Imported Swiss Ribbed Vests, hand-crocheted trimming on neck and

Women's Combination Suits.

Women's Knitted Corset Covers.

25c Window Shades 19c

We have for to-morrow's selling exactly three thousand of these Holland or Opaque Shades; just in time for you to replace the old ones that come down when you clean house. All the best colors are represented, and they are mounted on spring

You are getting genuine Quarter-Dollar Shades at 19c in this sale; considerable saving when you stop to think.

Women's Linen Coats

Smart Summer Styles Shown for the First Time, and at Popular Prices.

Styles are exclusive and smart, and an exquisite workmanship is evinced throughout. These handsome garments will be shown to-morrow for the first time. Every woman who enjoys superior dressiness of apparel will be interested in these Coats:

One desirable style is of White Butcher Linen, 32 inches long, box back collarless, kimona sleeve, correctly tailored, entire coat finished with eyelet embroidery; special price \$7.50

Another pretty style is made 42 inches long of fine linen, in white, loose, boxy effect, deep cape collar, with scarf ends, full kimona sleeve, collar, deep border and cuffs of handsomely designed eyelet embroidery

WE HAVE TWO SPECIALS TO BRING TO YOUR NOTICE IN OUR

Household Linen Department

which must not be considered to mean "the only good things in it," for there are many other good things in it.

First. A 36-inch All-Linen Hair Striped Dress or Slip material, worth 25c per yard; our price20c

Second. Hand-embroidered Irish Linen Shirt Waist pattern (flax grown and spun and goods woven and embroidered in Ireland), eight left for, each \$2.50

We show some clegant goods made by "Webb," and bleached in the old way—upon the grass and by the dew.

TAPERING WAIST R.G CORSETS

many new styles in this of the famous R. and G. make. They give the desired tapering shapeliness to manded by the spring fashion.

PRICES

All R. and G. Corsets, whatever the price, are guaranteed to give satisfaction in every detail.

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Solid Color Taffetas, with princess handles, \$1.00 to.....\$3.00 Dresden effects, \$1.50 to \$3.50 oaching Parasols at \$2.50 to \$8.50.

White Parasols, with fancy borders, straight and princess handles, \$1.50 to\$4.00 Sun Umbrellas, \$1.50 to \$3.50.

he was there with the bad coffee. Couldn't understand me at all. One night I left a morning call for room 15 at 8 o'clock. The boy got mixed up and called room 8 at 15 o'clock. Careless call to pay! Couldn't understand me at all. One night I left a morning call for room 15 at 8 o'clock. The boy got mixed up and called room 8 at 15 o'clock. Careless boy!

But after all, that early morning call for coffee isn't any worse than I've found in small town hotels in Georgia. Down in the Cracker States they come to your room at 5 o'clock in the morning to ask you how you want your eggs. You'd think they had to leave an order with the hens to lay just so many eggs for breakfast.

Not a Strange Land.

On the whole, South Africa is not such



Kaffir Language.

Tel give a good deal to be able to speak the Kaffir language. Its discomforting to hear these black fellows justified in your presence, and you what they're like a churp many be kidding your you saying. They have not been such that they have not seen and such that they have not seen and you what they're saying. It was a strange land. You know when I start a for this country I thought I was goin to a wild place where monkeys you gaying. The beause they can't make the house of the diluing-room. Details employ Kiff, servants for chamber work, and indentured Indianace worse than Kiffirs in many presence are a good many Indians up here but they do not get that you only the presence are worse than kiffirs and lives happily for the presence are worse than kiffirs and in the presence are worse than the presence are worse than the presence are also that the presence are also thank the presence are also the presence are also the presence are also thank the presence are also the presence are also thank the presence are also thank the presence are also the presence are also thank the presence are also thank the presence are also thank

outside the Four Hun in London, and as South Africa is beyond the pale, you seldom find anyone who can tell a twostep from a baseball game. A more fascinating array of American Beauties than were at that New Year's Ball you would not care to see. And the men-well, good Americans are all good fellows you know. I met several fascinating Englishwomen there that night too, and had not the numer styen out. I would baggishwomen there that hight too, and had not the punch given out, I would have proposed to one of them on the spot. My boy, my boy! She was no Kokomo belle. Every time I looked at her I was on the loop-the-loop for fair. Prosperous Virginians.

Prosperous Virginians.

I met two Virginians at the ball, also—a nice, clever young fellow, named Chalk-ley and another named Carper. Both are doing well in a business way, and in a social way Virginians are not so slow either. Joe Carper, I am told, 'ast week cleared \$3,000,000 in a mining transaction and is regarded as one of the city's brainlest young men. There is another young Virginian living down at Durban—W. P. Moore Kellam, from Accomac county, who is making a name for himself, and our consul at Pretoria, Joseph Profilt, who is known from the Cape to the Zambesi for his talents and social graces, is also a Virginian and a graduate of William and Mary, and Yale, Most of the Americans connected with the gold mines hall from California. When all those old college men get together of a night, the air is filled with close harmony and furniture for quite a while. There is but one unmarried American girl in Johannesburg and she is engaged. Sad!

Twenty years ago monkeys chased on Twenty years ago monarys chased one another from tree to tree on what is now the main street of the hustling, bustling, wide-awake Americanized city of Johnnnesburg. Over one hundred thousand people now live within its limits and among its many handsome sess blocks is a mammoth ten-story constructed office building and a re-story one now in course of con-tion. An immense hotel building,

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covering nearly a whole block and five stories high, is also being put up, as well as other structures of smaller dimensions. The gold mines are, of course, the mainstay of the city as well as the whole country but England doesn't believe it and so she is threatening to stop the importation of Chinese laborers for the mines, at the next election. If she succeeds, South Africa will have been given its knock-out drops industrially. Khiffir laborers won't work and Chinese will, and this led to the introduction of the Chink on the Rand several months ago,

Its four o'clock and tea-time, so I must flust. This tea habit is awful when you once get it. Yours.

RAGGY REED.

RAGGY REED.

Minister Teaches Boxing. Rev. John L. Soudder, paster of the First Congregational Church, in Jersey First Congregational Church, in Jersey City, now has the People's Palace in working order, though the balace is not yet completed. It is an adjunct to his church, and contains a gymnasium, dancing academy, howing a gymnasium, dancing academy, howing a gymnasium, dancing academy, bowling Illoys, etc., the whole to cost about \$30,000. If shall teach the boys to box, says Mr. Sudder, and I shall also teach the boys and girls to dance. I'm a grandfather, but I have not forgotten how to use the gloves, I am an ardent believer in every form of physical culture. That is a kind of the ology that does a great deal of good."

Big Bell for Arlington. DIS Bell for Arlington.

If the plans of leading members of the Grand Army of the Republic in Washington come to fruition, the largest bell in the world will be placed at an early day on a commanding eminence in Arlington Cometery, where its deep toned tolling can be heard for miles around. The bell is to surpass in size and volume of sound the great hell at Moscow, Russia. It is also proposed to have it tolled on Memorial Day and whenever a soldier is buried within the cemetery.

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